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Statement submitted by Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is being issued without formal editing.

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Statement

Presently we are at an important cross roads regarding the Millennium Development Goals. The main concern is how a program and a process can be sustainable and what can be altered towards sustainability. It may be more useful to exploit proven best practices that have not only obtained their goals, but were also sustainable in their strategic process to become role models for others.

It is well known that there are many different factors involved for an organization to remain sustainable. MAHAK has maintained its sustainability by taking care of the family, as well as the child stricken by cancer. For instance, evaluating the family's income, parental approach and acceptance towards the disease and most importantly moral support throughout the battle for all members of the family.

However, the main question still remains how to recognize the ideal non-governmental organizations and organizations that are role models for such potential blooming organizations? The latter can be through the selection of capable non-governmental organizations who have been pioneers and innovators. This could be undertaken through independent evaluator organizations and within a universally accepted framework of assessment. There are non-governmental organization benchmarking standards used by agencies, such as SGS, where operational capability of non-governmental organizations can be easily verified. The same could be undertaken for evaluation of sustainability of an non-governmental organization. The result should be directly connected to funding. The better the rating the more favorable the funding arrangements.

The fight against communicable diseases, such as tuberculosis, malaria and HIV serves as one example where successes in some areas can be juxtaposed and provide affirmative results. The reason is that not only governments but also, global organizations have worked alongside each other to control these diseases.

Also, Global Fund projects have been properly designed and monitored. This could be the case for non-communicable diseases, as follows:

(a) Proposing the establishment of a global fund and an independent global organization to carefully study and evaluate each non-communicable disease approach before and after it is implemented through result-based approaches and with the required funding programmed separately;

(b) Educational and research activities of successful non-governmental organizations can be identified in advance and addressed in project documents;

(c) Successful strategies should be recognized by evaluators and presented to the public by independent evaluators (nationally and internationally) for further studies, and new non-governmental organizations to use as project formats/models. Much of the required training should follow a standardized and uniform approach; and

(d) Properly funded simple solutions on the basis of clearly designed non-communicable disease projects within a public private partnership arrangement, where necessary infrastructures exists, should become priorities.